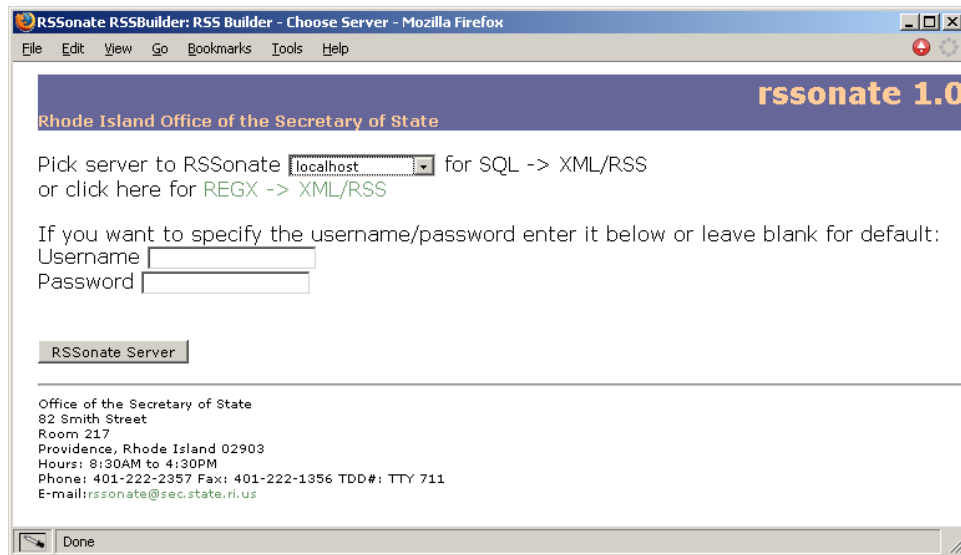


## Instructions for Using RSSonate 1.0/RSSBuider

### Step 1: Server Selection

Access the *RSSonate RSSBuilder* interface. You are presented with a "Pick server to RSSonate" option with a drop down box containing all available database connections.

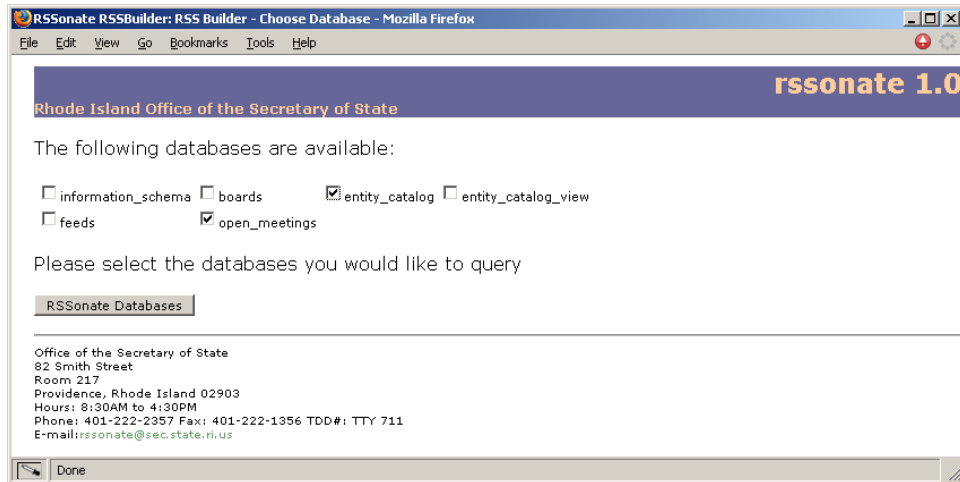


**Figure 1: Server Selection Screen**

After selecting the database, enter values for Username and Password. These values may be left blank in the event that default username and password values have been specified in the configuration file(s) and the database management system accepts these values for user access. Once these values have been entered, click on the "RSSonate Server" button.

### Step 2: Database Selection

You are now presented with the database selection page. Click on the checkbox associated with the database you wish to query.

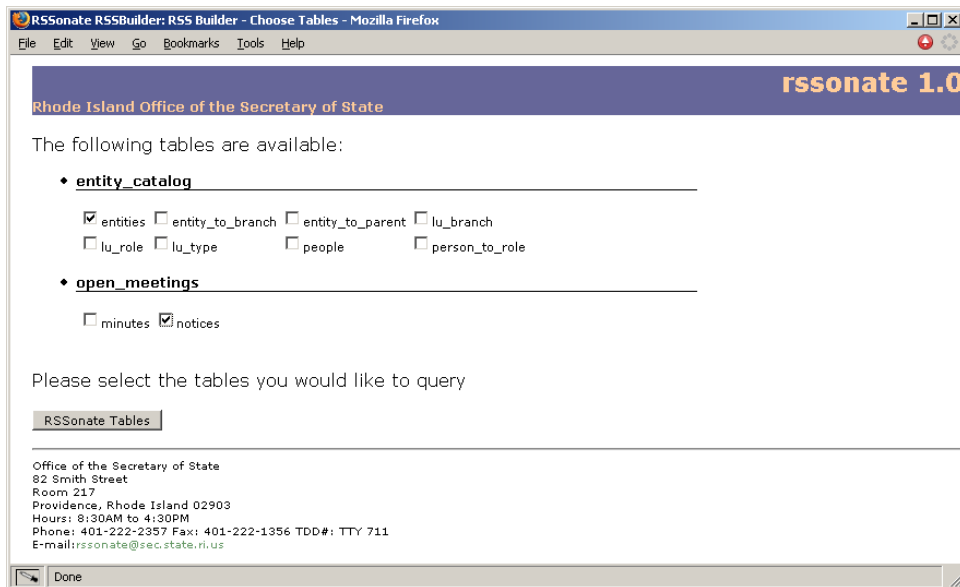


**Figure 2: Database Selection Screen**

When finished selecting the databases, click on the “RSSonate Databases” button. This will bring up the table selection page.

### *Step 3: Table Selection*

Next is the table selection page. These are the tables contained in the databases chosen in the previous step. The tables are displayed in block form underneath the heading of the database to which they belong. If you only chose to query a single database, you will see only one of these headings.



**Figure 3: Table Selection Screen**

Select the desired tables and click on the "RSSonate Tables" button. This will bring up the conditions definition page.

#### *Step 4: Conditions Definition*

Now you will be presented with a conditions definition page. This is where you are required to specify your query constraints.

RSSonate RSSBuilder: RSS Builder - Define Conditions - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

**rssonate 1.0**

Rhode Island Office of the Secretary of State

Build your conditions:

**Condition Group 0**

entity\_catalog.entities.id = - Select Comparison Type - Ok cancel insert

Add new condition group

No Order

**RSSonate Conditions**

Office of the Secretary of State  
82 Smith Street  
Room 217  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
Hours: 8:30AM to 4:30PM  
Phone: 401-222-2357 Fax: 401-222-1356 TDD#: TTY 711  
E-mail: rssonate@sec.state.ri.us

Done

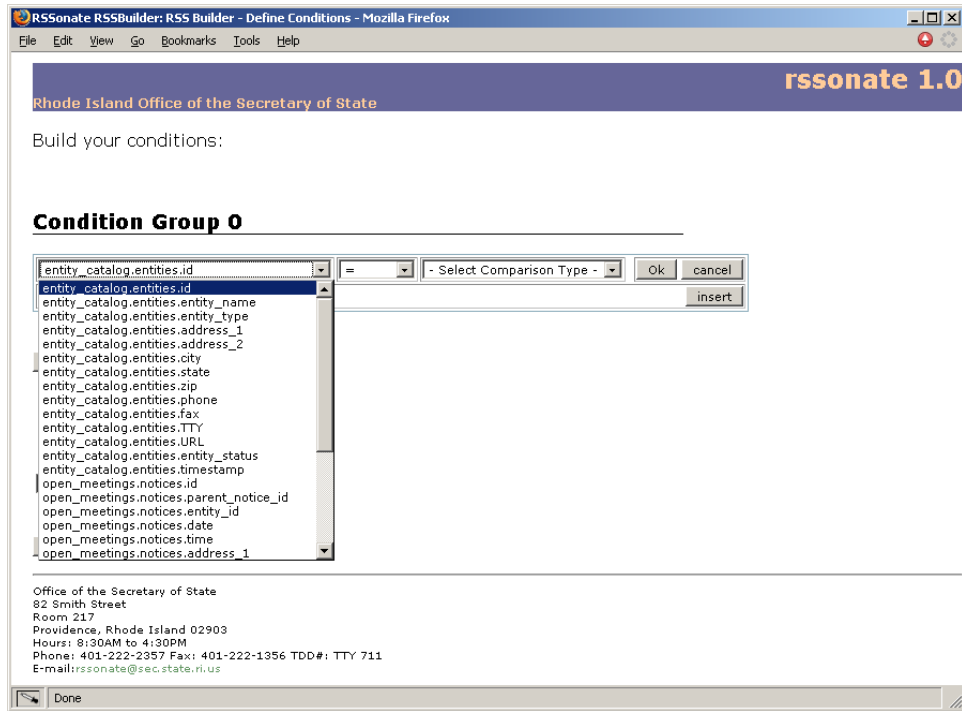
**Figure 4: Condition Definition Screen**

You will first see a heading named "Condition Group 0." This is the first condition definition sequence made available to the user. Under the heading you will see a span of three (3) drop down boxes in a row. The first contains a list of all fields from the database tables selected in the previous two steps. They are listed in the form:

databaseName.databaseTable.tableField

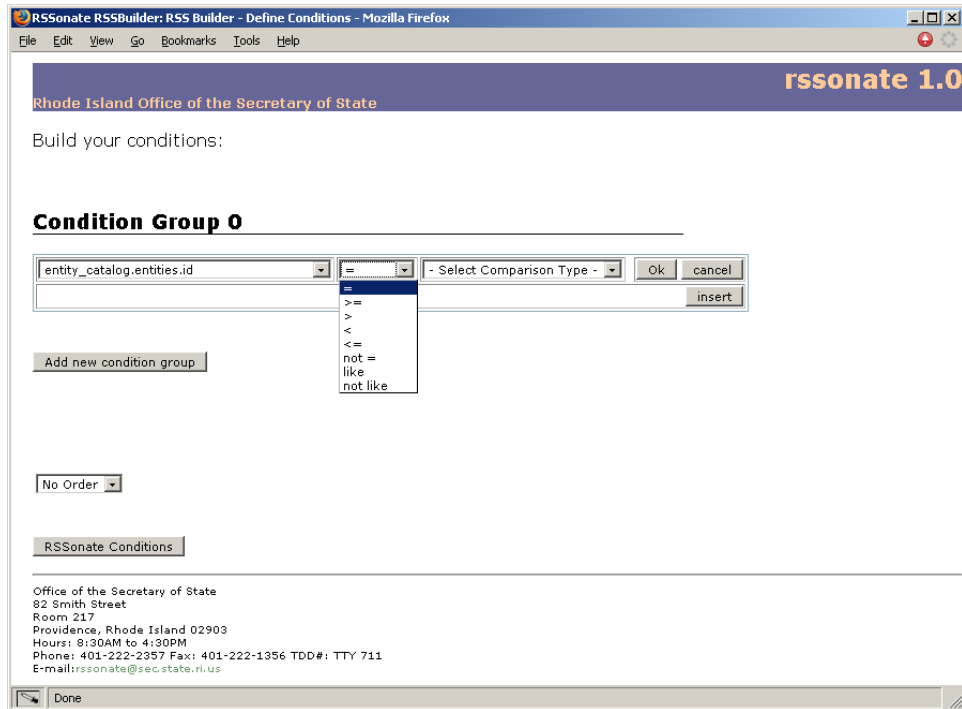
So, for example, if you have a database named MyDatabase with the table someTable with fields field01 and field02, then the list would look like:

myDatabase.someTable.field01  
myDatabase.someTable.field02



**Figure 5: Condition Field**

The next drop down box contains a list of operators (=, >=, >, <, <=, not =, like, not like).



**Figure 6: Condition Operator**

The next drop down box contains a list of values for the type of constraint (Field, Hard Coded Value, User Input).

RSSonate RSSBuilder: RSS Builder - Define Conditions - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

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Rhode Island Office of the Secretary of State

Build your conditions:

**Condition Group 0**

entity\_catalog.entities.id = - Select Comparison Type -

Field  
Hard Coded Value  
User Input

Ok cancel insert

Add new condition group

No Order

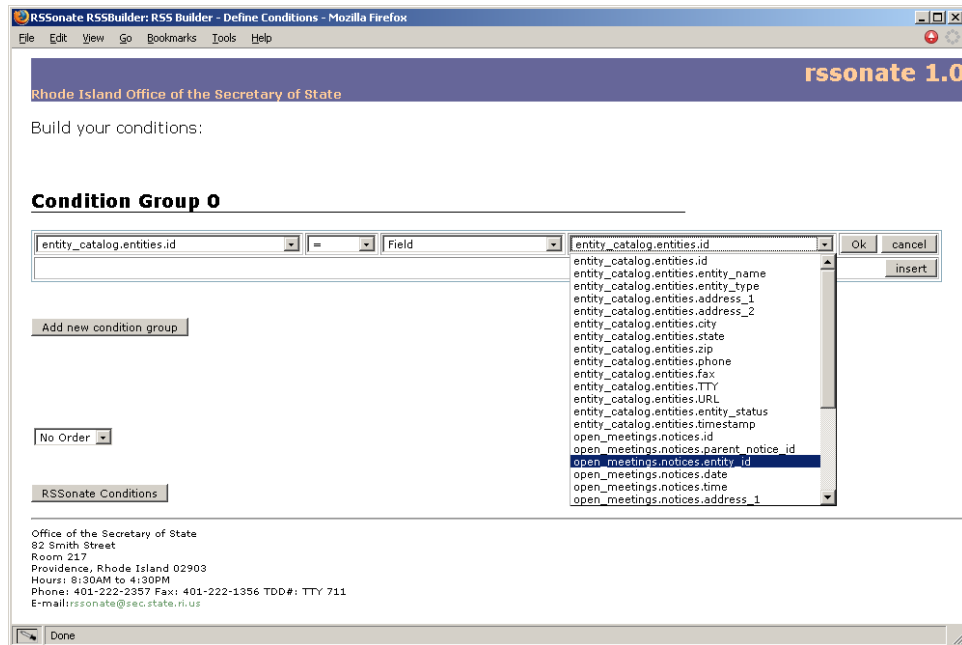
RSSonate Conditions

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82 Smith Street  
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E-mail:rssonate@sec.state.ri.us

Done

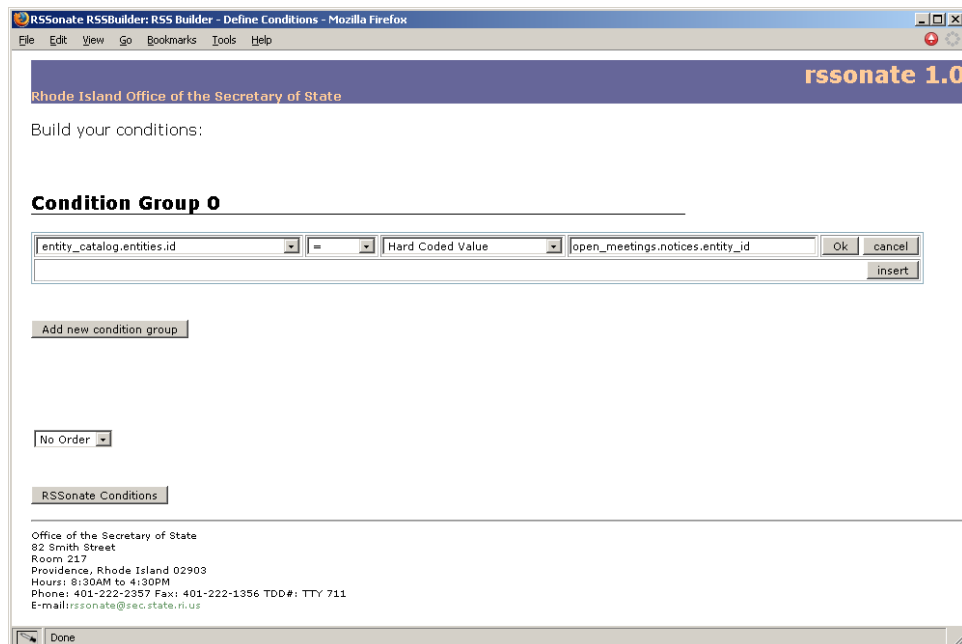
**Figure 7: Condition Operand**

If "Field" is selected, a new drop down box appears with values identical to those of the first. It contains a list of all fields from the database tables selected in the database and table select steps.



**Figure 8: Field Selected**

If "Hard Coded" is selected a text entry box appears for the user to enter a value for the condition (i.e. SELECT \* FROM table WHERE field = 'Hard Coded Value').



**Figure 9: Hard Coded Value Selected**

If “User Input” is selected the end-user of the resulting feed will be prompted for additional input.

RSSonate RSSBuilder: RSS Builder - Define Conditions - Mozilla Firefox

Rhode Island Office of the Secretary of State

rssonate 1.0

Build your conditions:

**Condition Group 0**

entity\_catalog.entities.id = User Input

Ok cancel

insert

Add new condition group

No Order

RSSonate Conditions

Office of the Secretary of State  
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E-mail: rssonate@sec.state.ri.us

Done

**Figure 10: User Input Selected**

Once the appropriate information is entered, the Insert button can be clicked. This will generate a new set of drop down boxes for entering another constraint string. The new set of boxes will be separated by an additional AND/OR select box. Make the selection from this box and then construct the next condition string as described above.

As you may have noticed there is also an “Add new condition group” button present underneath the drop down boxes previously described. At any time – preferably after the first condition is defined – this can be clicked to initiate a new condition group block. It will be accordingly labeled “Condition Group 1.” This can be repeated a number of times allowing for complex conditional grouping. For example, a three set conditional grouping could take either of the following forms:

A and B or C  
A and (B or C)

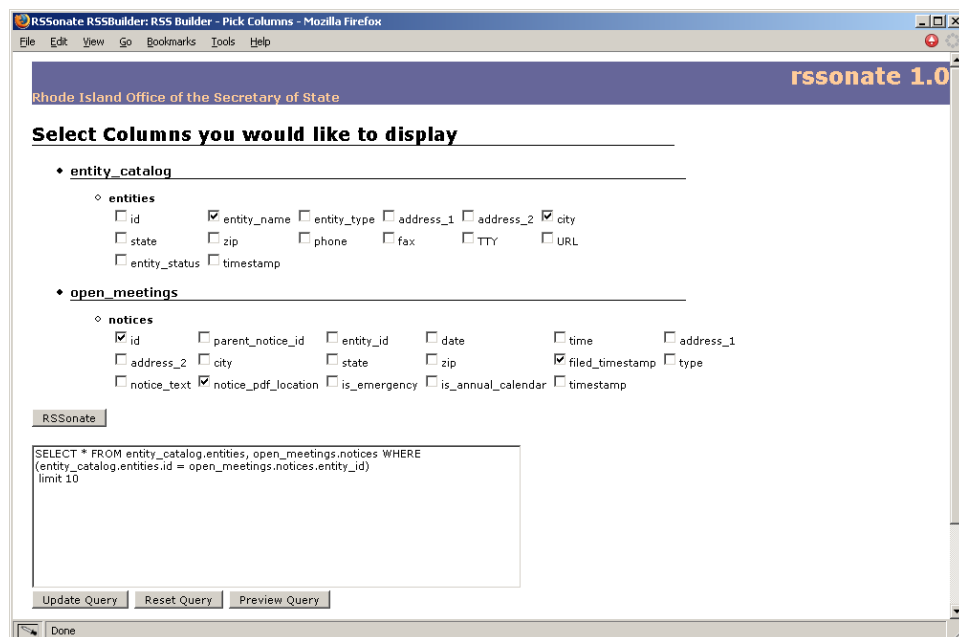
With the condition group(s) entered, the “RSSonate Conditions” button can be clicked. This will generate a column display specification page.

#### *Step 5: Columns Selection*

At this point, all available columns are listed with corresponding checkboxes. Also, a textarea displays the query as defined in the previous steps. Here, the query can be modified.

The check boxes primarily correspond to subsequent steps. At this point any columns of interest (e.g. for feed output or display purposes) should be checked. They will be made available in the steps that follow for such purposes. It is important not to confuse the selecting of a column's check box with modification of the query. In order to further define the query, changes must be made to the query textarea.

The initial form of the query will be of the form "SELECT \*." That is, the query will default to select all available columns. To target specific columns the query must be edited within the textarea and the "Update Query" button pressed. Use the available column names above the textarea as a guide. If the query contains an alias (e.g. SELECT id AS this\_id) then check box entries will be generated for all "aliased" items when "Update Query" is clicked. Other buttons include "Reset Query" and "Preview Query."



**Figure 11: Column Select Screen**

When finished with the column selections, click on the "RSSonate" button. An output definition page will load.

#### *Step 6: Define Output*

There are specific instructions at the top of the page followed by several text entries with associated drop down boxes.



**Define Output**

You have successfully defined a query against a database. Now you can define what the output will be like.

For each record that is displayed as a result of the query will be broken into a Title, Link, and Description as you define. Additionally you can specify a Web Master, Author, Published Date and Source.

You can customize each output item by entering text and specifying which field (or fields) make up the output item.

**Title:**  
A short description of the record  
 -Add an element- ▾

**Link:**  
A link to a page that shows more detail about the record  
 -Add an element- ▾

**Description:**  
The core information to display  
 -Add an element- ▾

**Web Master:**  
Person or group who maintains the data - okay to leave blank  
 -Add an element- ▾

**Author:**  
The originator of the data - okay to leave blank  
 -Add an element- ▾

**Published Date:**  
Will default to most recent update of the table that data came from  
 -Add an element- ▾

**Source:**  
The group responsible for the RSS feed  
 -Add an element- ▾

RSSonate

Done

**Figure 12: Output Definition Screen**

The drop down boxes to the left of each of these inputs presents a list of fields relative to the query choices made in previous steps. If one of these is the desired input simply select it from the drop down box to populate the input. Note that multiple inputs are allowed in the text entries (i.e. mixed inputs). For instance, the text input can be populated with a single text or drop down input or multiple inputs.

**Define Output**

You have successfully defined a query against a database. Now you can define what the output will be like.

For each record that is displayed as a result of the query will be broken into a Title, Link, and Description as you define. Additionally you can specify a Web Master, Author, Published Date and Source.

You can customize each output item by entering text and specifying which field (or fields) make up the output item.

**Title:**  
A short description of the record

**Link:**  
A link to a page that shows more detail about the record

**Description:**  
The core information to display

**Web Master:**  
Person or group who maintains the data - okay to leave blank

**Author:**  
The originator of the data - okay to leave blank

**Published Date:**  
Will default to most recent update of the table that data came from

**Source:**  
The group responsible for the RSS feed

**Figure 13: Multiple Input Example**

When finished, click on the "RSSonate" button. This will bring up a feed definition page with requirements relative to syndication of the feed.

### *Step 7: Define Feed*

The feed definition page is similar to the preceding output definition page in structure. Here is where syndication specific values for the feed will be set.

**Figure 14: Feed Definition Screen**

There are several inputs for “channel” values. When finished making selections, click on the “RSSonate” button. This will finalize the feed construction process.

### *Step 8: Previewing the Feed*

A feed preview page is now displayed with links to both the feed (“URL to feed”) and the XML (“URL to the XML”).

**Figure 15: Preview Feed Screen**

The database01.table01.field = database02.table01.field example shown in Figure 8 as...

```
SELECT * FROM entity_catalog.entities, open_meetings.notices WHERE  
(entity_catalog.entities.id = open_meetings.notices.entity_id)
```

...results in the following "URL to feed" preview.

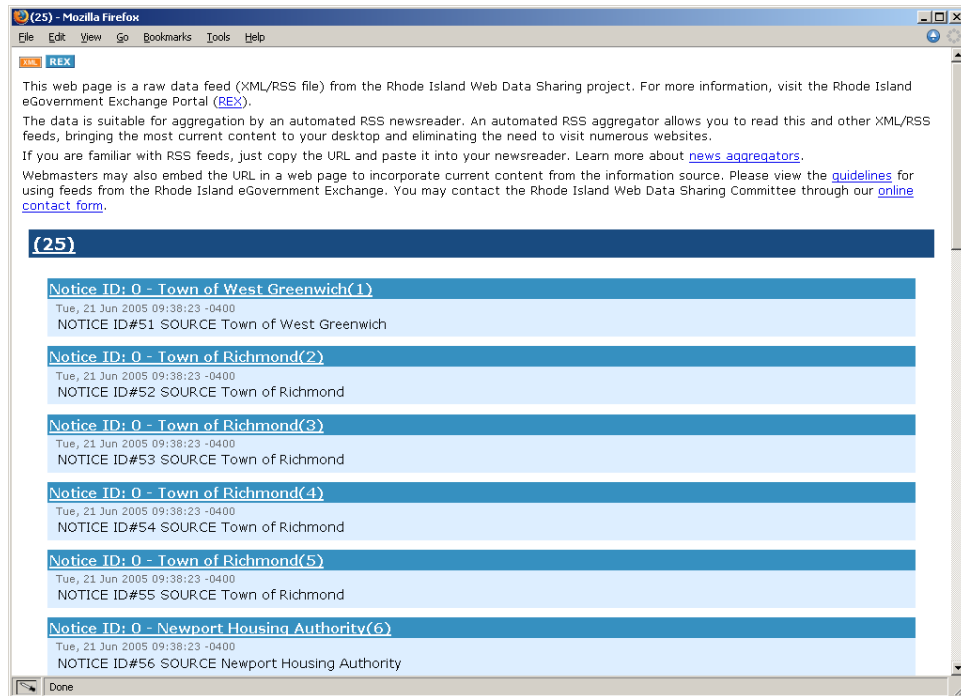


Figure 16: URL to Feed Preview

If the feed condition specified "User Input" for the query the feed will appear with a text input.

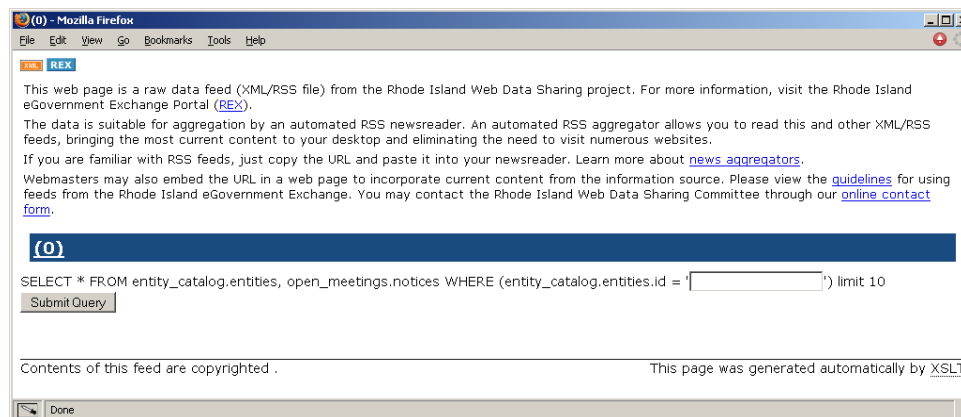
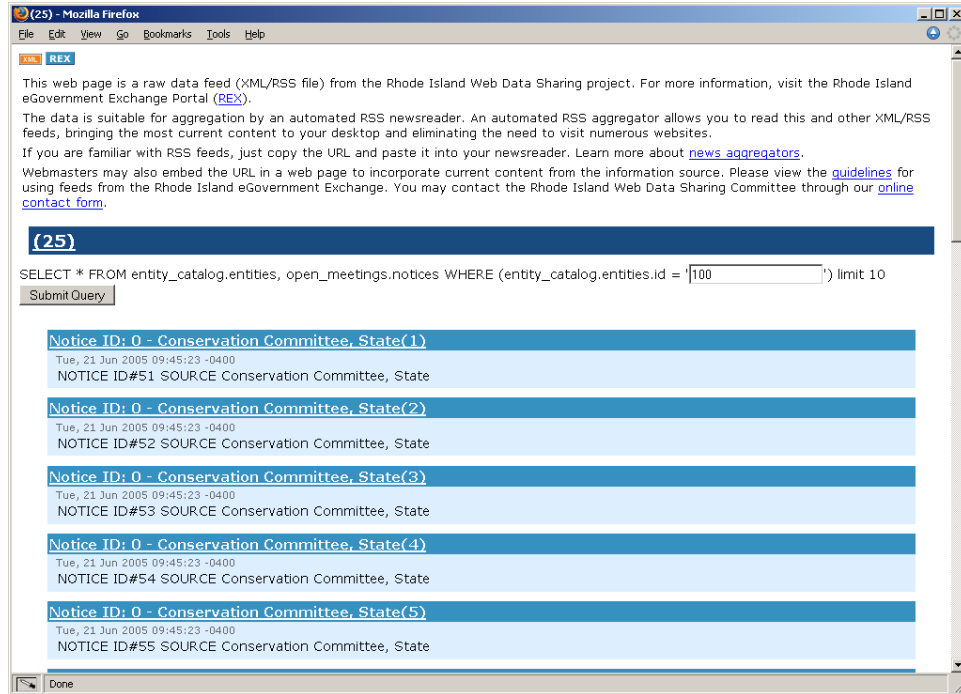


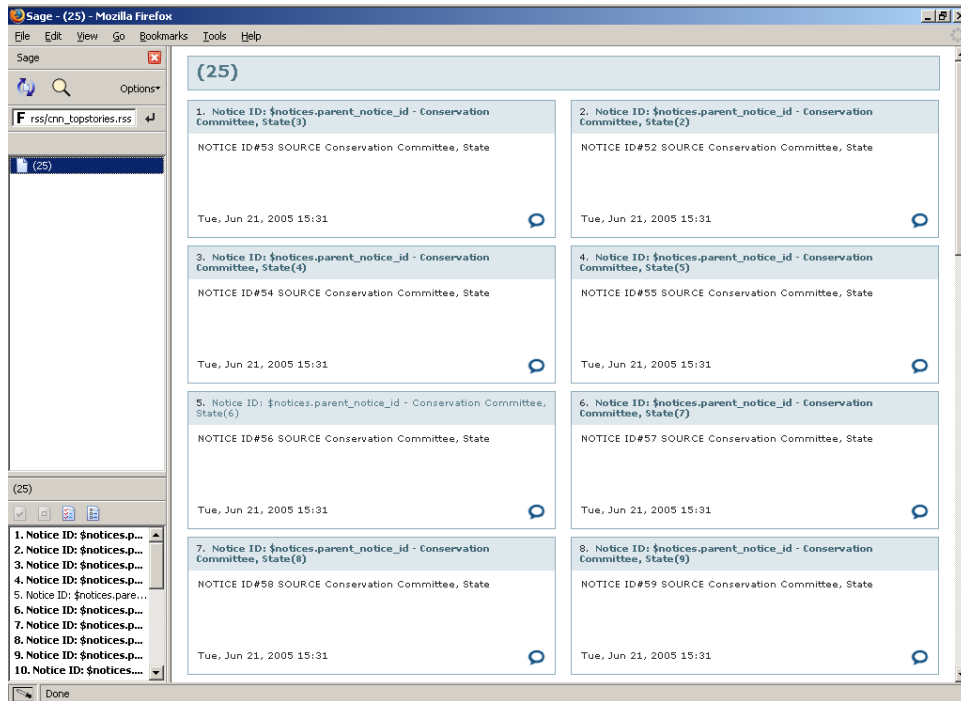
Figure 17: Query with User Input Selected

With the user input entered (e.g. id = '100'), the "Submit Query" button can be clicked which results in the following output.



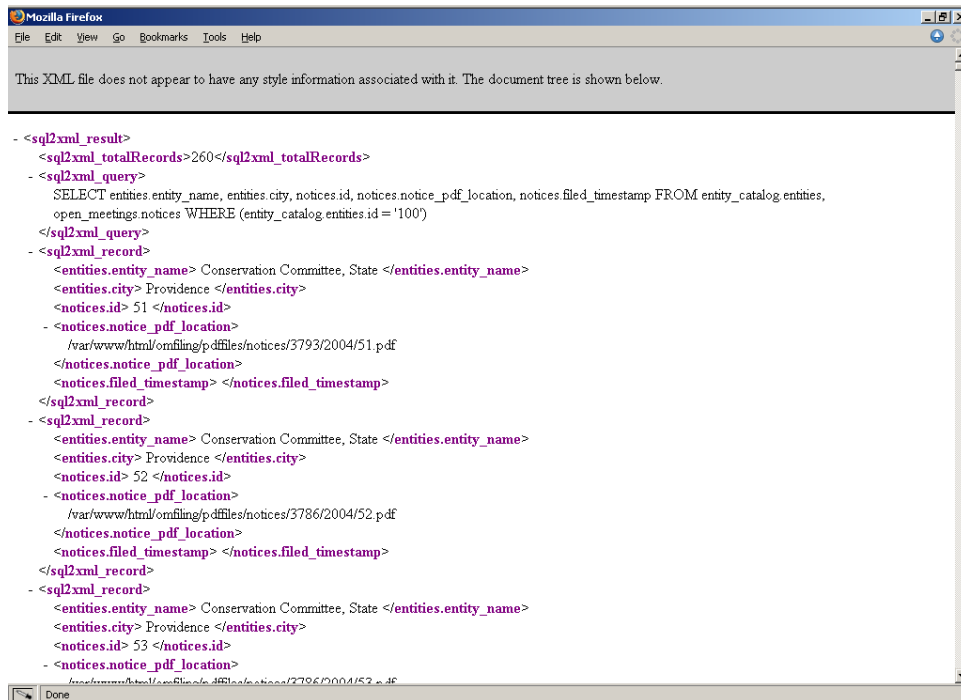
**Figure 18: List of Feeds from User Input**

The feed URL can now be loaded into the news aggregator of choice. The feed constructed in the previous example appears as follows when loaded and called in the Sage news aggregator (within Firefox browser).



**Figure 19: Feed Displayed in Sage Aggregator**

The following page results if the "URL to XML" link is selected from the feed preview page in Figure 15.



**Figure 20: URL to XML**